



**CONGRESSIONAL BUDGET OFFICE
COST ESTIMATE**

November 27, 2001

S. 1623

A bill to amend the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act to direct the President to appoint Children's Coordinating Officers for disaster areas in which children have lost one or more custodial parents

*As ordered reported by the Senate Committee on Environment and Public Works
on November 8, 2001*

S. 1623 would authorize the President to appoint a Children's Coordinating Officer to provide support and assistance to children and their caregivers during disasters. The Children's Coordinating Officer would provide help to victims in obtaining temporary care services, mental health counseling, and legal services for guardianships and adoptions, among other related duties.

Based on information from the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), CBO estimates that S. 1623 would have no significant impact on the federal budget. FEMA would likely designate the Deputy Federal Coordinating Officer who works in each region to take on the responsibilities of the Children's Coordinating Officer; therefore, new positions would not necessarily be created under the bill.

S. 1623 would not affect direct spending or receipts; therefore, pay-as-you-go procedures would not apply. S. 1623 contains no intergovernmental or private-sector mandates as defined in the Unfunded Mandates Reform Act and would not affect the budgets of state, local, or tribal governments.

The CBO staff contact for this estimate is Julie Middleton. This estimate was approved by Peter H. Fontaine, Deputy Assistant Director for Budget Analysis.